

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for use by middleware in a communication system comprising:
 - 5 the steps of:
 - enabling a group of behavior sets for use by said middleware;
 - operating in accordance with a first behavior set from said group;
 - receiving at least one trigger;
 - selecting a second behavior set from said group based upon said at least
 - 10 one trigger; and
 - operating in accordance with said second behavior set.
2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of notifying a second middleware of the selecting of said second behavior set.
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 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trigger is at least one of:
 - a light bar activation;
 - a light bar deactivation;
 - a change in the time of day;
 - 20 the speed of a vehicle;
 - location information;
 - an emergency bar activation;
 - an emergency bar deactivation;
 - an emergency button activation;
 - 25 an emergency button deactivation;
 - a siren activation;
 - a siren deactivation;
 - a dispatch warning; and
 - a change in behavior set of a second middleware.

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4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said middleware is a middleware client.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said middleware is a middleware server.
- 5 6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of operating comprises implementing a set of routing rules and Quality of Service determined as a function of said second behavior set.
7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said first behavior set is a default behavior set.
8. The method of Claim 1, wherein said at least one trigger is at least one of a remote trigger and an external trigger.
- 15 9. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of examining state information, and wherein said second behavior set is selected based upon said state information.
10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said second behavior set is selected based upon a determination of a first condition.
11. The method of Claim 10, wherein said first condition is a state of mission criticality.
- 25 12. The method of Claim 10, wherein said determination of said first condition is made external to said middleware and communicated to said middleware via said at least one trigger.
13. The method of Claim 12, wherein said determination of said first condition is made by a second middleware.

14. The method of Claim 12, wherein said determination of said first condition is made manually.

5 15. The method of Claim 10, wherein said determination of said first condition is made internal to said middleware based on said at least one trigger.

16. The method of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the behavior sets in said group is predefined.

10 17. The method of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the behavior sets in said group is dynamically determined.

18. A method for use in middleware in a communication system comprising the steps of:

15 enabling a group of behavior sets to be predefined for use by a first middleware;

operating in accordance with a first behavior set from said group;

receiving at least one trigger;

20 selecting a second behavior set from said group based upon said at least one trigger;

notifying a second middleware of the selecting of said second behavior set; and

25 operating in accordance with said second behavior set, said operating comprising implementing a set of routing rules and Quality of Service determined as a function of said second behavior set.

19. Middleware for mediating between at least one application and at least one communication network transport, said middleware comprising;
 - an application interface;
 - a network interface;
- 5 a group of behavior sets; and
 - a behavior set selection function operative for causing said middleware to operate in accordance with a first behavior set from said group; receiving at least one trigger; selecting a second behavior set from said group based upon said at least one trigger; and
- 10 causing said middleware to operate in accordance with said second behavior set.

20. A system comprising at least one middleware server and at least one middleware client, each operative in accordance with the method of Claim 1.